

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE  
OF THE  
PRESIDENT JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE**

**NO. 2000-2**

**DESIGNATION  
OF  
PRE-TRIAL SUPERVISION  
OF  
JUVENILE DEFENDANT CRIMINAL CASES**

This 18th day of February, 2000, IT APPEARS THAT:

(A) From the commencement of a juvenile defendant's criminal prosecution to its conclusion by adjudication or otherwise, any elapsed time other than reasonably required for pleadings, discovery, and court events is unacceptable and must be eliminated. To enable just and efficient resolution of juvenile defendant criminal cases, the Superior Court, not counsel or the litigants, shall control the pace of such litigation in this Court. Counsel for the State and the defendant have a responsibility as officers of the Court to eliminate unnecessary delay consistent with their ethical obligations to their clients.

(B) The assignment of a Judge in each county to provide pre-trial supervision of each juvenile defendant criminal case will help assure that such cases are adjudicated without unnecessary delay; and

(C) Such assignment will also improve communications between the Superior Court, the Family Court, and the Department of Services for Children, Youth

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and Their Families concerning the status of such cases and any companion case pending before the Family Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED that:

(1) Unless a case is otherwise specially assigned, the pretrial supervision in each county of all juvenile defendant criminal cases, shall be conducted by a judge designated by the President Judge to perform such responsibility. Current designations are included in Exhibit A of this Directive which, on occasion, may be modified to reflect changes in assignments or judges serving on this Court. All juvenile defendant criminal cases should be adjudicated within 120 days of arrest unless circumstances justify a departure from this guideline. Scheduling priority shall be given to juvenile defendants detained in default of bail. The Prothonotary/Case Scheduling Officers in each county shall include the designated Judges and the Chief Judge of the Family Court on their status reports to the President Judge of juvenile defendant criminal cases pending before the Superior Court.

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(2) All previous Administrative Orders relating to the assignment of pre-trial supervision of juvenile defendant criminal cases are hereby rescinded.

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President Judge

oc: Prothonotaries  
xc: Superior Court Judges  
Chief Judge Vincent J. Poppiti  
Hon. M. Jane Brady  
Hon. Lawrence M. Sullivan  
Mr. Thomas J. Ralston  
Hon. Thomas P. Eichler  
Law Libraries  
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**EXHIBIT A  
TO  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE  
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Judges designated to handle pre-trial supervision of juvenile criminal cases:

New Castle County - Judge Toliver

Kent County - Resident Judge Vaughn

Sussex County - Resident Judge Graves

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President Judge